

Message Text

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42

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 NEA-10 IO-12 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-09 H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01

PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12 AID-20 OMB-01 CU-04 RSR-01 /158 W
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R 131302 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3730

USINT ALGIERS

USMISSION BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY KIGALI

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

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E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, MARR, BY, EG, LY, AG, NI, BE, FR, GE, SZ

SUBJECT: TRAVEL OF BURUNDI FOREIGN MINISTER

DEPT PASS USINT CAIRO

REF BUJUMBURA 402 (NOTAL)

SUMMARY: FONMIN SIMBANANIYE' S FULL ITINERARY INCLUDES THREE ARAB CAPITALS AND LAGOS IN AFRICA, THEN FOUR STOPS IN EUROPE, INCLUDING EAST BERLIN. IN AFRICAN STATES AND EAST GERMANY HE WILL SEEK ASSISTANCE AND ATTEMPT STRENGTHEN TIES OF FRIENDSHIP. IN REMAINING COUNTRIES HE WILL DISCUSS ASSISTANCE, ATTEMPT TO COUNTER ANTI- GRB PRESS REPORTS,
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AND TRY NEUTRALIZE OPPOSITION OF BURUNDI STUDENTS ABROAD.
MIDDLE EAST QUESTION " SURE TO COME UP." END SUMMARY

1. IN STATEMENT RELEASED APRIL 11, DAY AFTER HIS DEPARTURE, FOREIGN MINISTER SIMBANANIYE CONFIRMED INFORMATION PARA 1 REFTEL AND ADDED ADDITIONAL DETAILS CONCERNING HIS TRIP. FULL ITINERARY INCLUDES CAIRO, TRIPOLI, ALGIERS, AND LAGOS IN AFRICA AND BRUSSELS, PARIS, BERLIN, AND GENEVA IN EUROPE. IN CASES EGYPT, LIBYA, ALGERIA, NIGERIA AND EAST GERMANY, TRIP IS IN RESPONSE THESE HOST GOVERNMENTS' INVITATION " IN ORDER REINFORCE TIES OF FRIENDSHIP AND COOPERATION BETWEEN OUR COUNTRIES".
2. IN BRUSSELS, PARIS, AND GENEVA, SIMBANANIYE INTENDS TO REVIEW COOPERATION WITH COUNTRY CONCERNED, BUT ALSO TO INFORM IT " OBJECTIVELY AND AS COMPLETELY AS POSSIBLE ABOUT CERTAIN SITUATIONS WHICH HAVE EXISTED IN OUR COUNTRY. WE HAVE IMPRESSION THAT INCOMPLETE INFORMATION HAS ALLOWED CERTAIN PRESS AGENCIES TO MISREPRESENT REAL STATE OF AFFAIRS... CAUSE DEFENDED BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC, THE GOVERNMENT, AND THE BURUNDI PEOPLE IS A JUST CAUSE, I. E., TO SAFEGUARD BURUNDI' S INDEPENDENCE AND AIMS OF THE BURUNDI REVOLUTION."
3. SIMBANANIYE EMPHASIZED IMPORTANCE OF INCREASING CONTACTS BETWEEN AFRICAN COUNTRIES AND SAID HE EXPECTED AREAS OF POSSIBLE COOPERATION TO OCCUPY FIRST PLACE IN DISCUSSIONS WITH HIS AFRICAN COUNTERPARTS, BUT THEY WOULD ALSO DISCUSS POLITICAL QUESTIONS SUCH AS DECOLONIALIZATION OF AFRICA AND RESPECT FOR THE INTEGRITY OF SOVEREIGN STATES.
4. NOTING THAT MIDDLE EAST QUESTION SURE TO COME UP, SIMBANANIYE NOTED THAT PRESIDENT MICOMBERO HAS DECLARED BURUNDI' S POSITION IS TO CONDEMN AGGRESSION FROM WHEREVER IT COMES AND THAT IT SEES SECURITY COUNCILS 1967 RESOLUTION AS PROPER BASIS FOR NEGOTIATIONS. OUR POLICY " IS NOT TO SUPPORT UNJUST CAUSES". HE ADDED THAT THERE WILL ALSO BE A DISCUSSION OF COOPERATION " AS IT EXISTS AND POSSIBILITIES FOR EXPANSION."
5. IN BERLIN SIMBANANIYE EXPECTS TO DISCUSS DIPLOMATIC, TECHNICAL (PRESUMABLY TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE), AND CULTURAL LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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QUESTIONS FOLLOWING RECENT BURUNDI RECOGNITION OF EAST GERMANY.

6. IN ADDITION TO QUESTIONS OF COOPERATION, MICOMBERO HAS INSTRUCTED SIMBANANIYE TO RAISE IN BRUSSELS, PARIS, AND GENEVA QUESTION OF BURUNDI STUDENTS IN EUROPE " WHO ARE IGNORANT OF BURUNDI REALITIES." FONMIN POINTED OUT THESE STUDENTS GO TO EUROPE TO BE EDUCATED AND RETURN TO HELP IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THEIR COUNTRY. HE CONTINUED, " FROM HUMANITARIAN POINT OF VIEW, IT IS A VERY GOOD THING FOR THESE STUDENTS TO COME HOME. IF THEY DONT, THEY WILL EMBARK UPON PROGRAMS OF GENOCIDE AND ASSASSINATION. NEITHER COUNTRY WHICH HAS SENT THEM NOR ONE WHICH HAS GIVEN THEM OPPORTUNITY TO STUDY WOULD BE PROUD OF THAT."

7. COMMENT: IN OTHER WORDS SIMBANANIYE' S PURPOSE IS TO OBTAIN ASSISTANCE, NEUTRALIZE BAD PUBLICITY BURUNDI HAS RECEIVED IN VARIOUSELEMENTS OF EUROPEAN PRESS (PRESUMABLY INCLUDING FALSE REPORTS OF NEW MASSACRES-- BUJUMBURA 363) AND WIN OVER DISAFFECTED BURUNDI STUDENTS OR RENDER THEM LESS HARMFUL. HIS COMMENTS ON MIDDLE EAST SEEM WARNING THAT ARAB COUNTRIES, ESPECIALLY LIBYA AND PERHAPS ALGERIA, WILL HAVE TO PAY IF THEY WANT UNAMBIGUOUS BURUNDI SUPPORT ON ISRAELI QUESTION. TRIP TO LAGOS WE GATHER IS AT GRB INITIATIVE, NOT LAGOS' AS INDICATED IN RELEASE, AND WOULD SEEM TO REPRESENT ATTEMPT TO REFURBISH ITS AFRICAN CREDENTIALS.
YOST

NOTE BY OC/ T: NOT PASSED CAIRO.

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